

Northwest

Missourian

JUN 29 '78

NORTHWEST MISSOURI STATE
UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
MARYVILLE MISSOURI 64468

VOL. 39, Number 33

Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville, MO 64468

Friday, June 30, 1978

Surviving summer's storms



Summer storms crashed through Maryville early this week, disrupting sleep and causing varying degrees of damage to campus and the town.

A tornado was sighted about 3 a.m. Monday west of town according to Don Schultz, Maryville Public Safety dispatcher.

"It wasn't quite on the ground," he said. "(The twister) probably went over town but there is no evidence that it touched down." Damage could have been caused from winds associated with the tornado according to Schultz.

Students living on campus were awakened and instructed to take cover soon after the funnel cloud was sighted.

Rob Wheeler, director of Dieterich Hall, explained that a security officer called him and recommended that everyone go to the basement.

"I pulled the fire alarm because the power was off and the intercom panel isn't connected to the emergency generator," he said. RA's were posted to explain the situation.

Franken Hall officials alerted residents of the storm by knocking on each door. Sally Burley, director of Franken, said, "I called the police station and they said to get everyone downstairs."

The tornado warning ended at 4:15 a.m. and everyone was allowed to return upstairs. But the storm raged on.

Lightning struck the 69,000-volt St. Joseph Power and Light substation east of town, causing colored flames to light the sky.

Ralph Mayer, St. Joseph Power and Light vice-president of operations, said, "Two transformers and a circuit breaker were probably destroyed, causing fires and outages in Maryville and several surrounding communities."

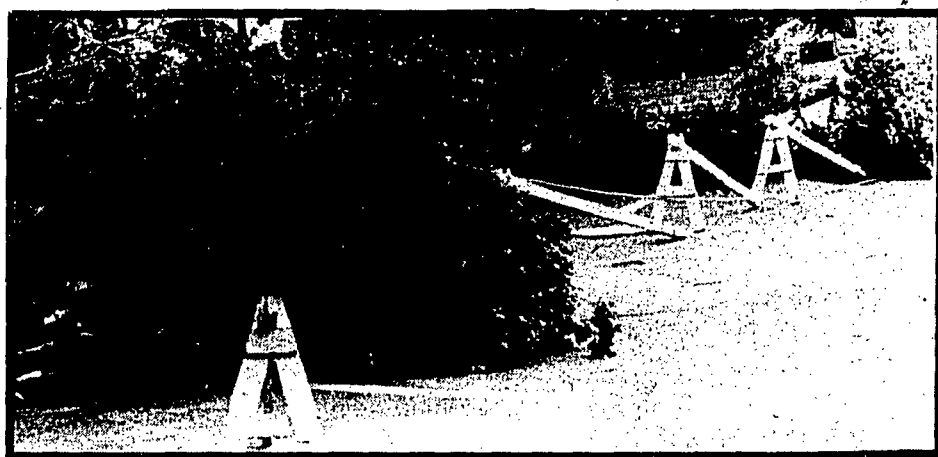
Power was off most of Monday morning and was restored by 1 p.m.

Mayer could not make any damage estimate on the power plant but felt the transformers and circuit breaker would probably cost several thousand dollars to repair or replace. Later reports estimated the damage at \$100,000 to \$200,000.

Reports estimate the winds at 80-100 miles per hour. Wind damage included fallen power lines and trees, shattered windows, roof, trailer and shop damage.

Further damage was produced by a golfball-size hail storm Monday night which shattered more windows and "sounded like an invasion" according to one student living in a trailer court.

Aftereffects of the storm were attended to by grounds crews and campus security. No one was hurt in either storm.



TREES were everywhere after the storm earlier this week when winds were estimated at 80-100 miles per hour. Above, trees and barricades protect students from a fallen power line in the parking lot south of Garrett-Strong. Left and top left, grounds crews were at work cleaning up the debris.

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A security officer enjoys the outdoors as she writes a ticket for illegal parking. This fall, the same ticket could cost up to \$26. [Photo by Robert Durham]

Fall ticketing change Tickets up, stickers down

Ticketing policy changes effective August 15, have been established for the fall semester.

"A change that needs to be emphasized is that every student who owns a vehicle must buy a parking permit," said Earl Brailey, director of security. The permit will cost the student \$5 per semester, a 50 percent price cut. There will be a \$25 fine for not having a parking permit and a \$25 fine for any fraudulent activities concerning parking permits.

All parking violations will increase from 50 cents to \$1. After 72 hours, the fine will increase to \$4, except for two parking violations. Parking in an area for handicapped persons will result in a \$5 fine which becomes \$20 after 72 hours.

Another change in ticketing policies concerns traffic signs. This includes stop, yield and pedestrian signs. For disregarding these signs there will be a \$5 fine becoming a \$10 fine after 72 hours.

Careless driving, which is operating a vehicle in such a manner as to cause harm to

others or property, will result in a \$10 fine. This fine will increase to \$20 after 72 hours.

When a student drives on the sidewalks or lawns he will be fined \$20 plus cost of repair.

An additional change involves appeal procedures for all tickets. The student must appeal within five days after the ticket has been issued as opposed to one week to appeal the ticket under the present system.

Immobilization procedures will still be practiced. Seventy-two hours after the second violation, a letter will be sent to the student explaining that he will have 96 hours to pay his fines or the vehicle will be immobilized. The student will have eight hours after immobilization before the vehicle will be towed away and held at his expense.

According to Missouri law, campus security does not have to send a letter. "This way is more fair," Brailey said.

Money collected from parking tickets is used to maintain parking lots and for snow removal.

Missourian classifieds 20 cents a line

July fourth weekend changes library hours

Finals! Term papers! Certain projects seem to haunt students as they are postponed day after day. But don't get caught unprepared because of library hours. Open hours will change from July 1-4.

The library will be open regularly on Friday, closed on Saturday and Sunday, open Monday from 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., open Tuesday from 6 p.m.-9:30 p.m. and open regular hours Wednesday, according to Dr. Charles Koch, director of learning resources.

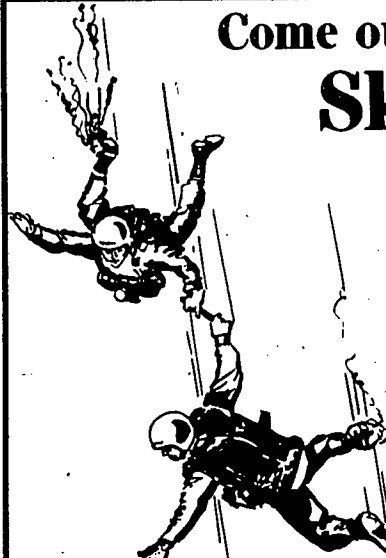
"Experience has shown that most students don't come back from break until the evening before classes resume," he said. "Also there are no classes scheduled for Monday. Whenever we have a break

we close over the weekend because the operating costs are greater than students' benefits," Dr. Koch explained.

"We have the hours stretched out as far as personnel will go right now," Koch said.

"We never open without professional staff on duty because some individuals are not familiar with the library tools and they need assistance."

Presently working in Learning Resources are five professional staff members, 11 support staff (clerical) workers and students. "It takes about three students for each hour to open up the place," Dr. Koch said. "We could still do with some workers. We have virtually no regular funds but we do need work study help."



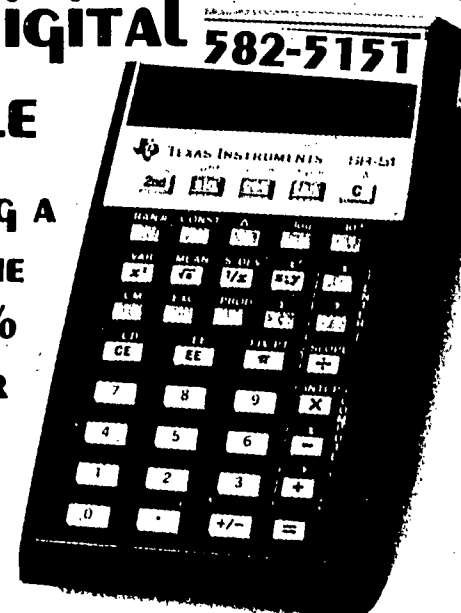
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UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE

Bad checks change Den policy

"No checks accepted" is the new Den policy due to the number of bad checks written to SAGA by students last spring.

"SAGA really got burned. Almost \$100 of students' checks written in the Den bounced," said Mike Linehan, food service manager of the Union cafeteria. "There is just no way to get most of our money back."

"Roughly 40 bad checks were written for the price of a meal in the two-week period," he explained. "The majority fell in the \$1.50 range."

"Anyone can make a mistake in their checkbook," said Linda McBee, food service secretary. "But when they don't answer our letters it's discouraging."

The new policy began with summer session. "It will continue through next year," Linehan said. "We constantly had bad check lists. Now we prefer a 'cash only' basis."

McBee explained the steps involved. "When we first get a bad check, it has already been processed through the bank twice. We must buy back the check for the amount. Then I type up a notice informing the student about the insufficient funds, mail it to them and request an answer within a few days. There is no service charge for this."

"If they have not contacted me within a week, I send a notice from the Sheriff's office by certified mail. Each of these certified letters costs \$1.96. Someone must sign for the letter and pay a quarter; when they do this we receive a small card

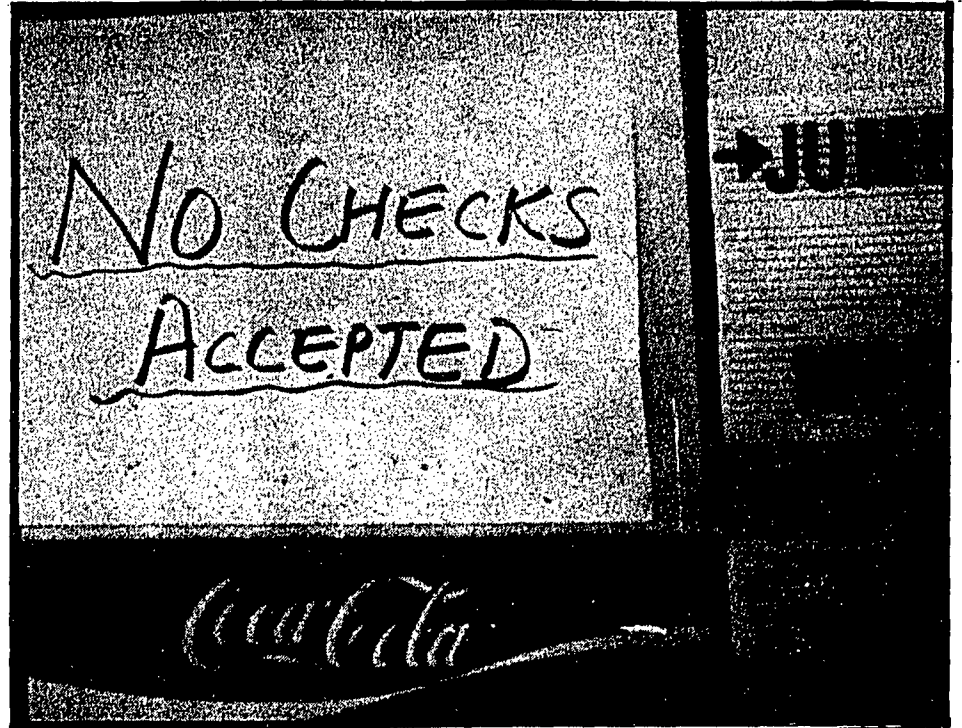
notifying us that someone picked it up. If they have not contacted me within ten days as stated in the letter, we turn it over to the Sheriff for prosecution."

"If the Sheriff's office is successful in finding the person, prosecution is the next step," McBee said. "They may receive a record of writing bad checks and we get the amount the check was for. But if the Sheriff's office tells us they can't collect or if no one signed for the certified letter, there is nothing more that can be done."

"An insufficient funds check for \$99 is termed a misdemeanor," said Roger Crumpton, University security investigator. "The penalty for it is not more than six months in a county jail or a fine of not more than \$500 or both. A check for \$100 or more is a felony. This penalty is not more than a \$1,000 fine or not more than a year in the county jail or both or imprisonment by the State Department of Corrections for not more than five years."

"If someone wrote five \$99 checks on insufficient funds that would not be a felony, it would be five counts of misdemeanor against that person," Crumpton continued. "Also penalties are determined by the prosecutor, depending on the circumstances."

"We have probably spent about \$400 in paper cost, postage, effort and time," Linehan said. "The checks have either been collected or we have turned them over to the SAGA Accounting Office where they are counted as a loss. But less than half the checks have been collected."



This sign, which is placed at the entrance of the SAGA snack bar, reflects SAGA's new cash only policy. The change in policy was made due to poor student response to returned check notices and processing costs for returned checks. [Photo by Robert Durham]

Published weekly at Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville, MO 64468, September-July except during examination and vacation periods. Second-class postage paid at Maryville, MO 64468. Advertising rates-display ads, \$1.50 per column inch-classifieds, 20 cents per line.

Classifieds

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SEX--it's all in the way you look at it

Sex is fun, agree most college students. But they also agree that it carries a certain amount of responsibility.

A topic of controversy, sex at NWMSU mirrors society's more "open" attitude towards physical relationships.

The ideas students bring to campus are reflected in this centerspread. Their attitudes are the products of past experiences. It's students who are affected by their peers' human sexuality attitudes.

Sexual attitudes vary from generation to generation. With the new sexual freedom in the seventies, students are finding it socially acceptable to have sex with someone they know there is no chance for a relationship with or where no special feelings are involved. However, this is untrue with the majority of the students here.

"I just don't see any use in it. I think sex is a personal thing." L.Y., female.

"It doesn't agree with me. I have to like the girl first to share something with her. I'd feel icky afterwards and I'd hate myself. If there's no feelings involved, making love is nothing." A.S.A., male.

"I think,
'God, I'm 22
and still a virgin' "

According to Rick Long, guidance counselor, college is a time to experiment with sex, with different partners and styles. With such an open attitude about sex, where does this put the virgin? Are virgins looked down upon by their peers and are they pressured to change their status? With such a progressive society, why do virgins stay virgins?

"It's not a point of staying a virgin till I'm married. I just haven't found the right person." A.N., female.

"My parents raised me to be a virgin for my husband. It's something I want to save and share with him. But I've gotta admit, I think, 'God, I'm 22 and still a virgin!'" D.P., female.

"I feel sorry for a guy who never has, because other guys just ride him until he does or lies about it." B.A., male.

Sexual attitudes have continually grown and changed, causing both conflict and confidence in students. Right, motels have grown in popularity as private retreats; above, sex is open season even in the dorms; above right, with the use of the Pill down, more women are choosing to have children or are turning to alternative birth control forms.

Copy and design
by Laura Widmer
and Carole Patterson

Photos by Wayne Vollmer
and Frank Mercer

Special thanks to everyone
who cooperated so honestly
with the survey

The survey

In order to determine what students think and how they feel about sex, we composed a survey consisting of 12 questions, with some questions having two-part responses. Twenty male and 20 female students were given the survey this week.

Seventy-five to eighty per cent of the surveys were taken randomly over the phone to dormitories and identities of these students are not known beyond their initials. The remaining 20-25 per cent were interviewed face to face in dorms or the *Missourian* office. Results obtained from the anonymous surveys were found to be practically identical to the in-person results.

Questions requiring elaboration were not tabulated but responses are given within the main article. The eight yes/no questions have been tallied according to sex and following are results obtained. In situation where the question was not applicable or in the case of "maybe" or "no comment," we only tabulated direct responses.

	YES	NO
1] Have you ever had sexual intercourse?	F - 14 M - 18	F - 6 M - 2
2] Have you had sex while attending NWMSU?	F - 12 M - 17	F - 8 M - 3
3] In the dorms?	F - 6 M - 13	F - 14 M - 5
4] Do you pick up girls/guys just to have sex?	F - 0 M - 9	F - 13 M - 11
5] Do you have sex with someone you know you're not going to have any kind of relationship with?	F - 2 M - 7	F - 18 M - 10
6] Have you ever had to pay - not necessarily money - to have sex?	F - 3 M - 4	F - 10 M - 11
7] Do you always use birth control precautions?	F - 12 M - 13	F - 5 M - 5
8] Do you expect your mate to be a virgin?	F - 1 M - 5	F - 16 M - 13

"If somebody doesn't believe in having sex it's their prerogative. I respect them for this belief, but not for abstaining." A.W., male.

Students' sexual attitudes are directly influenced by college life. Students learn more about sex, experiment with it and their own attitudes are susceptible to influence from their peers. But is there a difference in student attitudes? Is there too casual an approach to sex? Do students' sexual attitudes support the new sexual liberalism?

"Sexual attitudes among students are liberal. It's a sport-like watching television," G.S., female.

"It's pretty crude. Guys will go out to

see if they can 'get any'--they're messed up. Peer pressure plays a large part in other students' attitudes," S.V., male.

"There aren't as many inhibitions. People don't think it's bad to have sex. The moral code is looser," L.G., female.

Even though the moral code is looser, many students have guilt feelings or are embarrassed after sex. There is also the fear of pregnancy because birth control methods aren't always effective and aren't always used. Why do students have guilty feelings after sex? If there are none, how do they rationalize their actions?

"I feel guilty every time. It blows my mind. I guess it's because of my strict Catholic upbringing," G.J., male.

"I felt like maybe they didn't care, that it didn't mean anything to them." A.M., female.

"I've felt guilty several times just because of the situation at the time. I haven't regretted it, but I've been a little embarrassed," T.E.D., male.

"It's scary at first and you wonder if you were good and was he happy and all that. But guilty--never," P.C., female.

"There's always the fear of pregnancy and that you weren't good enough," L.J., male.

"Why should I feel guilty? It's been going on since the beginning of time. It's natural," M.F., male.

There are a wide range of sexual

attitudes. But who should be the balancing force? Whose responsibility is it to see that students are educated so they can develop a mature attitude about sex?

Long believes it's up to the University. "The college should know that sex experimentation occurs. We should pro-

"There's always
the fear
of pregnancy"

vide a platform to make experimentation an educational one and learn by it. People's attitudes are shaped by experience--we learn from our mistakes."

However, there is more to human sexuality than a physical relationship. The psychological aspect should also be considered. Love and sex are not synonymous.

"Sexuality is more than intercourse--it's communication, caring and loving someone special," J.W., male.

Attitudes grow from experience and experience is the best way to learn. It's knowledge that helps students 'get it together' and understand what's going on around them.

Selling more than your soul

H. J. is a prostitute.

She is a student here, working for a living.

"I don't like to be called a prostitute," she said, "but I guess since I get paid I am."

In a telephone interview H.J. revealed little about herself, about her reasons and reactions concerning her job. But she did explain the situation in which most of her business occurs.

H.J. had thought about prostitution in high school but never did. In spring '77 she got the idea at an open fraternity party.

"I met a guy at the party and he mentioned leaving and going to my place," she said. "I thought why not? I mentioned money and it was okay with him."

After her first paid sexual encounter, H.J. started hanging around parties. "Word got around fast. The guys know me now and I never proposition anyone, they come to me. They'll be drunk and want to do it. I always make sure birth control methods are used." Her pay varies from \$5 to \$50. "It all depends on how the guy is," she explained. "I name the price."

How does her family react to her situation and how does she feel about it?

"My parents don't know, but I'm afraid they could find out. I can live with myself right now but times are financially rough and I've got to look out for me first. I've got a reputation but it's too late to change that now."

Does a prostitute find it difficult to have a steady relationship?

"Oh, yes. It's hard to keep a guy when your reputation is known. If I ever wanted to get serious or married I'd have to go to a new town," she said.



Popularity of pill down; women fear complications

For the first time since it was developed, the sale of the Pill has declined. Early 1978 pill prescription figures suggest that women are turning to other birth control methods.

Although the Pill is the most effective birth control device, recent studies have revealed possible health problems relating to it. If the Pill is not used properly, complications can occur. Such complications include blood clotting, infertility, depression and heart attack.

However, Dr. Desmond Dizney, Student Health Center director, prefers to prescribe the Pill. "Last semester we had 250 girls come in for the Pill or a prescription for it. When a student can take it, I prefer to prescribe it. Then I spend time telling her how to use it safely and to know the trouble signs. If she doesn't have the right information, the Pill is a risk."

In an article "Shift Away From the Pill," in the May 21 issue of the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, George Zeidenstein, president of the independent Population Council said more women are using barrier methods.

"The sexually active person is now faced with an uncomfortable choice between use of highly effective methods, with varying degrees of risk and methods that may be safer but are more likely to detract from physical enjoyment and that are less effective in preventing pregnancy," said Zeidenstein.

The barrier methods are becoming more popular for the first time since they were abandoned a decade ago in favor of the Pill.

One barrier form, the diaphragm, is becoming more popular here, too. According to Dr. Dizney, they have been on the upswing over the last two years. Girls are becoming concerned about taking the Pill for too many years and want to switch their birth control device.

There were 140 students who consulted the Health Clinic about birth control advice or birth control methods other than the Pill.

However, even though birth control methods are available to students, a number of pregnancy tests are done at the clinic. The average week sees from six to ten tests being done and about one-third of those prove positive. According to Dr. Dizney, over 90 percent of the girls who discover they are pregnant through the tests at the clinic have abortions.



Time off

Local stores capitalize on T-shirt fad

Design your own! Choose a T-shirt in a regular style or go with french-cap sleeves and a round neck. Make up your own design or choose one already printed.

"T-shirts are a fad. Perhaps they're a little bit of nonconformity to set you off from everyone else," suggested Jim Sheldon, K-Mart manager.

"T-shirts are comfortable, easy to launder and people can say what they want to say," added Al Turner, manager of the Sport Shop. "Even if they're individuals in a group they have an identifying nature with their own kind. For example, all of seventh floor Millikan may be alike, but they are still different from third floor."

Most designs are mass-produced. Then store buyers choose a category of designs such as personalities, rock stars, beer and wine, sports, cars, radio station call letters, or sayings.

"Personalities and rock stars are the most popular," said Sheldon. "If we find that one design is selling especially well, we can order a variety of that design. We often order 6 to 12 dozen in a category. We'll go through three or four orders in a month."

"We sell more to women," said Peithe Rush, assistant director of the Bookstore. "There are more styles for them to choose from and they just buy more. Perhaps men think twice about it. But overall University designs have decreased in popularity. You can print pictures or sayings now. Sometimes they aren't very nice, but they're printed anyway."



T-shirts can advertise cameras, events and places, or some are just collected for fun. Often T-shirts are given as gifts or used in wet T-shirt contests. An average shirt costs \$3.75 compared to \$2.25 of a year and a half ago. But sales are still climbing according to several area store managers. [Photos by Frank Mercer]





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NPR broadcasts

National Public Radio's **Jazz Alive!** will again broadcast a live event June 30 at 6:30 p.m. when it presents the performances of Chick Corea & Friends and Woody Herman and the Thundering Herd at the Newport Jazz Festival from Avery Fisher Hall, New York. The program will be broadcast by KXCV-90.5 FM.

Chick Corea is a composer/keyboardist whose explorations of Latin, jazz and pop music have made him one of the most musically influential and commercially successful performers today.

The billing of Corea with the big band sound of Woody Herman and the Thundering Herd is particularly significant in light of the musical collaboration between the two. Herman has always been an admirer of Corea and the Corea compositions naturally lend to big band arrangements.

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Events

'Reflections' creates unity

Timing plays a vital role in the overall good quality of "Reflections," a reader's theatre to be presented June 29-30 in the Charles Johnson Theatre.

Unlike a play, the readers' theatre contains many selections juxtaposed to create an overall theme of human reflection toward life. In order to blend contrasting elements, perfect timing is crucial and in this case turns what could have been a choppy hour of oral interpretation into a smooth, unified hour of entertainment.

The program is divided into five phases of man's life--The Looking Glass, The Quest, Serenity, Shadows and Celebration.

In each category the mood changes; the literature is chosen to illustrate individual aspects of the growth cycle.

The literature chosen will appeal to all ages and tastes but don't expect to be fascinated by each selection on the basis of literary merit alone. They vary from classic literature to modern humor to fantasy to rock lyrics to children's stories. Even selections out of your taste range can be found appealing through the use of lighting, movement and music.

Choreography lends itself to special effects and although actual dancing only occurs a few times, the footwork between and during selections is the most vital aspect of the show's smoothness. Bob Gately, Linda Hernandez and Ella Slaughter choreograph as well as perform in the chamber theatre.

Dick Blair runs the lights and coordinates slides used as a backdrop behind the stage. Overall, the slides have a positive effect, but some abstract color designs are rather meaningless and more photos would have enhanced the literature.

Music is subtle and well-used, when it is used at all.

One particularly unusual effect is costume. Each character wears black pants and slippers and a white shirt. Roles are changed by the frequent addition of accessories such as hats and capes. It is fascinating to watch one actor portray a dozen characters in an hour-long show.

Everything is simple in the reader's theatre because it is produced by Dr. Charles Schultz' Theatrical Production in the Secondary School class and one goal is to put on a quality show on a limited budget.

The production is free to the public and begins at 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday in the air conditioned Fine Arts Building theatre.

'Readers for "Reflections" include Vicki Clay, Gately, Susan Grace, Hernandez, Jan Lassiter, Dussie Mackey, Frank Mercer and Slaughter.

Class members, some of whom appear on stage as well as direct, are Phyllis Barr, Janet Crees, Mary Jenkins, Judy Jennings, Roy Morales, Josephine Summers and Robert Waldron.



Bob Gately and Ella Slaughter rehearse their parts in "Reflections," a readers' theatre to be presented June 29 and 30 in the Charles Johnson Theatre. The program is divided into five parts which represent the phases of man's life: The Looking Glass, The Quest, Serenity, Shadows and Celebration. [Photo by Frank Mercer]

Wilson under construction



Construction crew workers paint hallway in Wilson Hall.

Wilson Hall, former men's dormitory, is currently being converted into the Office of Family Services (OFS) according to Steve Easton, director of technical services.

OFS, a conglomeration of state-funded welfare services, is leasing only the ground floor of the building. District and county level offices will be located at the facility.

Renovation of the area began early in June and is to be completed before July 1 when OFS is scheduled to move in.

Members of the campus construction and maintenance crews will be doing all the remodeling. Work will include painting, installing new carpeting and drapery, minor petitioning and the addition of air conditioning.

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Input-Output

We rode the storm out-- but let's not press our luck

Response by city and University officials toward recent weather conditions is commendable. But given a more severe situation, people could do little without emergency support systems and Maryville simply isn't well-prepared.

Case in point: The torando sighted west of town early Monday morning. Conditions were extremely dangerous and the community had a right to be informed but just as the sirens were about to sound, the substation was struck by lightning. The town was rendered helpless, with no power and no warning siren. City officials were forced to drive through town alerting people to take cover.

Luckily, the tornado did little major damage. But what if it had? What if the safety department could not have driven through town? What if the people were left helpless and ignorant of the approaching funnel cloud? What if someone had died?

On a smaller scale, the dorms were also "left in the dark" when the power went out because the intercom system is not connected to the emergency generator. What if the danger was immediate and time would not allow a door-to-door evacuation? What if hundreds of students were trapped on upper floors of high-rise dorms when the tornado hit?

"What if" is mere speculation because the crisis never reached life-or-death proportions. But what does it take to get safety systems that work without the power plant? The substation, as proved this week, is not infallible during a storm. Emergency generators should include warning devices powerful enough to alert the entire town immediately in case of dangerous circumstances.

The Maryville Public Safety Department, campus security and dorm personnel did a good job getting through this emergency. But without faultless alert systems the town is defenseless in a real crisis.

Letter

Dear Editor

For the past two weeks the *Missourian* has printed letters promoting the new "traffic routes" on campus. But not everyone agrees with the letters of praise.

First, the new traffic routes are a nuisance. If one enters the campus, he just goes completely through it to get out again, or must turn right on Ninth Street. If a person needs to turn around if they passed their destination, they must go all the way out and around the campus again.

Also, the signs which are posted at the entrance and elsewhere stating, "PARDON ANY INCONVENIENCE WHILE WE REPAIR OUR STREETS" are a lie. No street repair is being done. Why don't the "traffic rule inventors" simply print the truth -- they want to try traffic patterns they think will work better.

The new traffic rules are a nuisance, and just another factor to make people even more unwilling to spend time on campus, or even drive through it.

Dissatisfied with the new rules,
Name withheld

The Stroller

Things were going swell for your Stroller. His love life was on the upswing, for a switch. But just as Cupid was to work overtime for him, Mother Nature turned against him. And guess who won.

Your Stroller had actually persuaded a young lady that he was the most deboner swave thing on campus. No, the girl was not on heavy drugs either. Your Campus Robert Redford had finally found a girl with some class, with similiar interests -- mainly him. So with no further ado, your Hero visited the little chickadee in the dorm and convinced her that since it was after open hours, he should stay the night.

It was Sunday night or Monday morning when the disaster/storm struck and your Stroller struck out. Everyone should remember that eventful evening. Your Stroller is definitely going to mark it down in his trusty book of days to forget. It will join other such memorable events as the Hindenburg disaster, the sinking of the Titanic and the day McDonald's ran out of Big Macs during one of your Hero's Big Mac attacks-- not a good scene.

Everything was going too good to be true for your charismatic Campus Carouser. Just at the wrong moment there was a devastating knock on the door--"Tornado warning! Everybody downstairs."

Your Stroller looked up at the clock--3:15. Then the lights went out and the storm outside was just a-raging blue blazes. I can't go down there, your Stroller thought. I'll be caught red-handed. But with his lightning fast brain, your Hero came up with the logical solution, I'll just have to be one of the girls.

With a flick of his bic, your Hero could see enough to pick out a suitable wardrobe for his night with the girls. So with granny gown in hand, your Stroller did his quick change routine and sported the red undergarment which came to his knees. Hairy legs and all your Stroller then tried to cover up with a robe and knee socks--not classy but it was the best he could do.

However he was going to have to do something about the hair and beard shadow. This was easily taken care of and your Hero trooped downstairs with the girls.

Needless to say there were expressions of awe and horror when your Hero was revealed by the flashlight of the head RA. Maybe he had overdone the cold cream, or maybe it was socially unacceptable that his shower cap clashed with his nightie and robe. Well, he wasn't here to be placed on the ten best dressed list in evening apparel, that was for sure. He just wanted to get the heck out of there unidentified.

However, all in all the girls were a good time. One girl was studying for her health test by flashlight and a nifty new game was started -- name that reproductive organ. Your Stroller was quite good and was the champion of the game -- undefeated in 39 games.

Then the girls started gossiping about guys and what girls were a tad on the loose side. Drat, your Hero had no pen and paper to take down this valuable info.

In fact your Stroller was happy this little misfortune had taken place until it happened. Big Bertha sat by him, wanted to know what perfume your Hero was wearing. Needless to say quarters were tight and there was no room for ol' BB to begin with, but she managed to wiggle her way beside your Stroller. This wasn't all bad, but ol' BB wanted to sit and chat with your maiden in distress. But your Stroller knew his voice would give him away. He'd just ignore her.

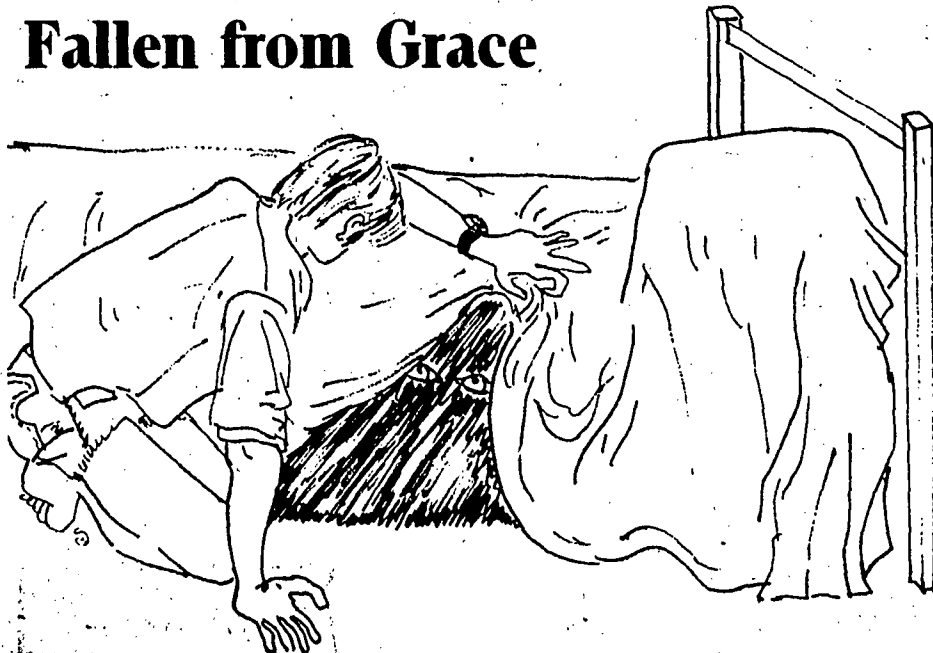
BB mumbled something to your Hero and when he failed to respond she grabbed his arm. However she grabbed the hair on his arm and fell back aghast. "Oh my! You poor thing, is it a hormone problem?" ol' BB queried. Your Stroller couldn't stand it any longer--he cracked up, gave BB a big smacker and fled for the door.

When he reached the door your Stroller was greeted by the 80-mile-per-hour winds. Fighting the elements, your fleet afoot Stroller fought his way to Dieterich. Shades of "Wizard of Oz" your Hero thought. There were definitely tornadic conditions out and about.

It's funny the tricks the weather can pull on a person, sometimes one begins to hear things or see things and this time was no different. As he reached the door on the last leg, your Stroller thought he heard Judy Garland yell, "Run, Toto. Run!"



Fallen from Grace



"Alright already. You can come out now. It's been three days since the storm."

Northwest Missourian

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